MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

5 FEBRUARY 1981

Iran Domestic Affairs

Khomeyni Warning--In a speech to workers and officials at Hoseyniyeh Jamaran in Tehran, a recording of which was broadcast by Tehran radio, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni made a strong call for unity as well as what PARS characterized as a "clear ultimatum" to unnamed leaders. He told workers that any invitation to stop work, slow down or strike is "treason," adding that those who "want to stop you from working" for the nation should be "pushed aside." Khomeyni warned groups and parties against creating "division and unrest" at a time when "we all need unity of expression," and he went on to criticize those "in the arena" who by their actions or writings create "discord" and divide the nation into "different tribes." Leaders and officials should "come to their political senses," he insisted, instead of "clawing" at each other and thereby weakening the nation's morale. Differences of opinion must be settled by discussion in a "peaceful atmosphere," Khomeyni said, adding that Iran will fall into the "lap of America" if it follows the "division makers." He called on the leaders of the country, "if they are leaders," to learn from the people and described newspapers that are criticizing each other and the Islamic Republic as "Satans." If the present situation of "biting each other like snakes and scorpions" continues, Khomeyni warned that he may "feel obliged" to do his "duty" and "take back" whatever he has "given to other individuals."

Beheshti Interview--Supreme Court President Ayatollah Mohammad Beheshti told a Tehran radio interviewer that parties and groups that engage in "conspiracies" and "sabotage" or that carry out "armed attacks" are "illegal" and should be "prosecuted." On the other hand, parties that only wish to "express their political views," even if against the government, should be able to freely do so, Beheshti said, provided they do not "lie" or create "disorder" and engage only in "healthy criticism" free from "bias and hostility."

Criticism of Bani-Sadr--The fundamentalist newspaper AZADEGAN has accused President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr of planning to resign his post and take power again later. AZADEGAN's editorial, reported by AFP, said Bani-Sadr is "totally isolated" politically and "incapable" of carrying out his duties, adding that he has created a "climate of antigovernment tension and provocation." The president's main aim, the newspaper alleged, is to topple Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i.

Raja'i Interview--Prime Minister Raja'i has said Iran will get "what America owes us down to the last penny." In a 31 January interview with the newspaper KEYHAN, Raja'i expressed confidence that the "agreements and protocols" signed by Iran will ensure that "not one penny rightfully belonging to our people will remain in American control." Raja'i also discussed internal affairs, saying the outlook for the appointment of his nominees to vacant Cabinet posts is "very bleak" but asserting that in his opinion the people are "insisting" that he should "not compromise in any way."

Cynthia Dwyer, Four Britons--U.S. journalist Cynthia Dwyer, arrested last May on suspicion of spying, has been tried by a Tehran revolutionary court. According to Swiss sources, cited by AFP, the verdict is expected "in the next few days." Regarding the fate of four Britons also held in Iran as suspected spies, Ayatollah Beheshti told a press conference that their fate will be decided "in a few days." In his statement, reported by AFP, Beheshti said he discussed the case of the three missionaries and a businessman with Sweden's ambassador to Tehran. Beheshti also told Tehran radio that the matter was discussed at his meeting with a Swedish under secretary for foreign affairs.

Iran Foreign Affairs

Iranian-Pakistani Relations--In his Tehran radio interview, Ayatollah Beheshti revealed that Pakistani Foreign Minister Agha Shahi complained to him about the "hard, critical position" against Pakistan adopted by the Islamic Republican Party newspaper JOMHURIYE ESLAMI. "We gave him the necessary explanations," Beheshti said, adding that his talks with Shahi also focused on the possible arrival of the Islamic Conference good offices committee for talks on the Gulf war.

'Acting Foreign Minister' Meetings--Tehran radio reported that "acting Foreign Minister" Khodapanahi held talks with the Pakistani foreign minister and the Swedish under secretary for foreign affairs, who stopped in Tehran en route to New Delhi. A permanent Iranian foreign minister has yet to be appointed.

French-Iranian Relations--Describing the future of French-Iranian relations as "very bleak," President Bani-Sadr said the provision of Mirage F-1 planes to Iraq was tantamount to "an act of war against Iran." In an interview with AFP, Bani-Sadr said the French have "dealt a blow" to the Iranian people's "friendly feeling" toward them. Bani-Sadr expressed doubt, however, that the Mirages will improve Iraq's fighting effectiveness, saying: "It is one thing to have planes and another thing to make use of them."

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Saudi Aid Denial--Defense Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has "categorically" denied reports that Saudi Arabia is supplying arms to Iraq, Riyadh television reported, adding that Saudi Arabia desires a negotiated settlement of the Gulf war.

Iraqi People's Army--First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan revealed at a press conference, reported by INA, that 32,000 People's Army members, including 5,000 Arabs and Palestinians, are serving with the Iraqi Armed Forces. Ramadan, who is commander in chief of the People's Army, noted that the 250,000-strong militia has benefited from shared experiences with similar organizations in Yugoslavia and Vietnam.

Military Situation--An Iraqi General Command communique, carried by INA, reported that Iraqi forces killed 140 Iranian troops in various clashes along the Kabir Kuh Mountains and around Dezful and Ahvaz while Iraqi antiaircraft fire downed three Iranian airplanes. In another INA report, an Iraqi commander denied Iranian claims to have retaken Nowsud and revealed that Iraqi troops have advanced farther toward Sheykhan. Tehran radio reported Iranian Air Force planes in action against an armored formation near Al-Halfayah inside Iraq while Iranian artillery countered Iraqi probes around Abadan and Khuninshahr.

Kurdish Situation

President Bani-Sadr told AFP that Kurdish dissidents are weakening the Iranian Army's effort against Iraq by tying down a large number of troops and called on them to stop fighting. While the president ruled out any Kurdish autonomy that means separation from Iran, he said that the Kurds can run their affairs through locally-elected bodies and stressed that any settlement depends on them. Iranian Army troops and revolution guards clashed with "illegal armed groups" in villages surrounding Marivan, Tehran radio reported, and also repelled an attack on gendarmerie barracks in Mahabad. The anti-Iran Voice of Iranian Kordestan radio acknowledged the fighting around Mahabad, reporting that Iranian forces have been shelling the town for 11 days.

Gulf Affairs

The foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman and the UAE met in Riyadh, SPA reported, and decided to set up a cooperation council and general secretariat to promote Gulf cooperation. The meeting followed an earlier Kuwaiti proposal at the Islamic Conference summit for the Gulf states to discuss regional security and economic cooperation.

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BRITISH MP'S COMMENT ON PALESTINIAN CONDITIONS

JN041506 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1245 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] The British parliamentary delegation which is touring the Middle East arrived in Jericho yesterday on a 2-day visit to the occupied West Bank.

The delegation was received by Jericho Mayor 'Abd al-'Aziz as-Suwayti, Nabulus Mayor Bassam ash-Shak'ah, Ramallah Mayor Karim Khalaf and Bayt Jala Mayor Bisharah Dawud, who was forced to resign by the Zionist occupation forces.

On behalf of his colleagues, Karim Khalaf welcomed the parliamentarians in the West Bank, which recognizes the PLO as its sole legitimate representative.

The delegation visited the University of Nabulus, whose students welcomed them with nationalist slogans. The delegation then had lunch at the Nabulus mayor's house.

Mr Frank (Hollin) stated that the British parliamentary delegation came [words indistinct] to acquaint itself with the situation under the [words indistinct] control.

Asked by the enemy radio correspondent in Hebrew about his impression of the conditions under which the Palestinians are living, the MP said: It is the same impression we held previously; these are a people who want their independence and want to establish an independent state. In short, a Palestinian state must be established and this would be the sound path toward peace.

Asked about his meeting with Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and what he told him, the British MP said: He told me the same words I told you. A Palestinian state must be established [word indistinct].

The enemy correspondent asked: Did you discuss the conditions?

The MP replied: We did not discuss any conditions.

Asked by the enemy correspondent his viewpoint of what he called the PLO terrorist operations against Israel, the MP immediately replied: What do you think of the terrorist Israeli raids on southern Lebanon?

The delegation met with [word indistinct] Palestinian union [word indistinct] institutions in Jerusalem.

Support for PLO

JN041755 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] (Aaron Ross), member of the UK House of Commons and chief of the British parliamentary delegation now visiting the West Bank, has asserted that the members of his delegation and huge masses of the British people do recognize the PLO as the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative. He also stressed that the PLO should undertake a leading role in the efforts to solve the Palestinian issue.

Speaking today to the Jerusalem paper ASH-SHA'B (Aaron Ross) said that we also recognize the Palestinian people's full right to self-determination and to the establishment of their national independent Palestinian state on their national soil under the PLO.

He denounced the policy of land confiscation and settlements construction. He said: I am certain that when the British people become aware of the suppressive conditions under which the Palestinian people are living, they will definitely support the Palestinian people's efforts to achieve liberation, justice and peace. He added: There is a saying that the individual's wound is everybody's pain. I say here that the Palestinian people's wound is a pain for the British people. In conclusion, (Aaron Ross) said: I will do my best to convey to the British people and to the members of the House of Commons the real picture of what I have seen here. I will tell them about the Palestinian people's suffering.

'ARAFAT RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM POPE JOHN PAUL

JN041718 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman, this morning received a message from His Holiness Pope John Paul II on the occasion of the new year. His holiness the pope wished the brother commander in chief and the Palestinian people continued happiness and success.

Brother Abu 'Ammar also received two greetings cards from Cardinal Casaroli and Archbishop (Silvastrini).

The pope's message to Brother Abu 'Ammar gains special significance since it comes following the third Islamic Conference summit in At-Ta'if, in which several Christian Arab delegations participated. These delegations reaffirmed that Muslims and Christians both cherish the city of Jerusalem and the just Palestinian cause.

KUWAIT

DEFENSE MINISTER ON POSSIBILITY OF FUTURE ATTACKS

LD050958 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0610 GMT 5 Feb 81

[Text] Kuwait, 5 Feb (KUNA)--In a press statement today the defense minister, Ash-Shaykh Salim as-Sabah, said that the armed forces have orders to resist any attempt to attack this Arab Gulf state. He told AL-QABAS that recent events, which certain parts of Kuwait had been subjected to, had had a great impact on officials. He added that the Kuwaiti Army will not allow anyone from now on to attempt an attack, and as an affirmation of this our air force has firm orders to confront any attack on our territories.

The Kuwaiti border post with Iraq in the northern region of Al-Abdali was subjected to two Iranian raids last November as a result of the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq.

The Kuwaiti minister expressed his regret at the continuation of this war, adding that it was not in the interest of the two countries. He warned that the continuation of fighting will inevitably have a direct effect on the other states in the Gulf region and also on the Islamic world. He said that the continuation of this situation will pave the way for the enemies of Islam and give an opportunity to those who want to create another Palestine in the Arab Gulf region.

KUWAIT CONSIDERING ATTENDING PDRY REGIONAL SUMMIT

LD041428 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1332 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] Kuwait, 4 Feb (KUNA)--Minister of state for cabinet affairs, 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, says that his country's stand toward an invitation by South Yemen to hold a summit comprising the Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula states and those bordering the Red Sea is not one of direct acceptance but it is acceptance to hold further consultations, contacts and research.

The minister of state expresses his surprise at previous reports talking about Kuwait's acceptance of the scheme and attending the summit.

He recalls that a joint communique on the visit paid to South Yemen recently explained this point. He adds: The communique has affirmed to me Kuwait's stand which is based on conducting further study and consultations.

The South Yemen president, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, had proposed holding the summit during the visit of Shaykh Jabir of Kuwait to the PDRY.

ENVOYS BRIEFED ON FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING

LD051109 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 5 Feb 81

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Jabir received at 1000 today at the Foreign Ministry the Arab ambassadors accredited to Kuwait. He informed them of the results of the meeting held in Riyadh yesterday by the Arab Gulf foreign ministers, which resulted in the establishment of a council for cooperation among the Arab Gulf states and the creation of a general secretariat for this purpose. He supplied to the ambassadors a copy of the final communique of the Riyadh meeting so that they can deliver it to their governments. A copy of the statement was also sent to the Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi.

Shaykh Saban al-Ahmad stressed to the Arab ambassadors that the Riyadh communique was a step which is consistent with the pan-Arab goals of the Arab nation. The establishment of the Gulf council itself constitutes a pillar in the building of the Arab nation and in its march. It also comes within the framework of the Arab League, which urges regional cooperation that seeks to strengthen the Arab nation and to underline the affiliation of the Arab Gulf states to the Arab League. It also seeks to strengthen the role of these states in realizing the aims and principles of the legaue's charter in the service of Arab and Muslim causes.

PAPERS COMMENT ON AMIR'S VISIT TO PDRY, YAR

LD041225 Kuwait KUNA in English 1034 GMT 4 Feb 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Kuwait, 4 Feb (KUNA)--KUWAIT TIMES on the amir's visit to the Yemens:

"At a time when the entire region lives under tensions, Kuwait's endeavor to promote harmony among the states of the region has a definite value. It may be recalled that Kuwait's mediation helped to end a border war between the two Yemens in 1979 and thereby enabled the two Yemens to divert their resources to productive purposes. During his visit to San'a', the amir observed that Kuwait and North Yemen were working for the security and stability of that party of the world "so that its people would concentrate their potential on development, construction and advancement". Similarly, the amir affirmed at Aden that his visit will facilitate effective participation in strengthening mutual relations and will speed up cooperation.

"The amir's visit will also help precipitate a summit of the Arab, Gulf and Horn of Africa countries which has been proposed by South Yemen. Such (?a conference) will have a useful purpose in view of significant development taking place in the entire region, especially the establishment of military bases."

AL-QABAS on the same subject:

"Our call for unity of the countries in the region should be (?completed). Thus it is not fair to leave the Yemens alone to face the cruelty of nature, poverty and backwardness. It is not in the interest of the region to have this strategic spot sliced out to fall in the whirlwind of international polarization and the superpowers' enticements in their attempt to ensure a foothold in this strategic center."

"The amir of Kuwait's visit came to tell the Yemens that they are in the region's mind and not far from its sphere of concern as a result of the Arabian Peninsula's destiny and interests as a whole.

"The Arabs have left the Yemens to face problems alone. This ignorance has pushed them to extremes in certain political stands and international links, adopting doctrines and systems strange to our region particularly [words indistinct] the Arab aid was not always at the correct time nor for the amount required. The required aid to the Yemens should be altruistic and should cover all phases of development."

SAUDI ARABIA

GULF COUNTRIES FOREIGN MINISTERS HOLD MEETING

LD040935 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0900 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] Riyadh, 4 Feb (SPA)--The Arabian Gulf countries' foreign ministers held their first meeting in Riyadh before noon today.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal, by the Kuwaiti and Bahraini foreign ministers and by the ministers of state for foreign affairs of the UAE and Oman.

The meeting was also attended by the Foreign Under Secretary for Economic Affairs Shaykh 'Ali Abdallah Rida. These meetings are a continuation of the meetings and bilateral meetings which were held during the third Islamic Conference summit in Mecca recently.

Cooperation Council

LD042044 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2010 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] Riyadh, 4 Feb (SPA)--The foreign ministers of the Arab Gulf states ended their meeting this evening.

The ministers decided to set up a cooperation council among the Arab Gulf states and to form a general secretariat for this purpose. According to a statement issued on the meeting the ministers decided to hold periodic meetings at summit level and at the foreign ministers' level with a view to attaining the desired objectives of these states and their peoples in all fields. The ministers also decided to hold another meeting in Muscat on 8 March, to be proceded by meetings of experts on 24 February 1981 and on 4 [word indistinct] 1981 in Riyadh and in Muscat to lay down an integrated system for the agreed-upon establishment of a cooperation council.

Al-Faysal Comments

LD051032 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 5 Feb 81

[Text] Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal told reporters after the meeting of the foreign ministers of the Arab Gulf states that the foreign ministers are working to lay the foundation for cooperation and that this will be completed at their next meeting. He added that the laying down of the strategy for this cooperation is a fundamental part of the work which has been started and which unifies these countries' work in various fields. His highness expressed his hope that the new cooperation council will provide an impetus for and organize the scope of cooperation among the Gulf states.

Speaking about security in the Gulf region, his highness said that this matter was not discussed at the meeting. He said that the Gulf summit meeting was discussed in general terms and that agreement was reached that it would be convened within 3 months and that consultations on security will take place at that time.

MINISTER DENIES REPORTS OF ARMS DELIVERY TO IRAQ

LD041822 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1644 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 4 Feb (SPA)--Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the minister of defense and aviation, has denied categorically the reports given by certain information media concerning weapons deliveries from the kingdom to Iraq

In a statement to the correspondent of AD-DIFA' magazine, his royal highness said that fraternal Iraq has not asked the kingdom to supply it with weapons and that rumors to this effect are mere propaganda fabrications which serve the aims of quarters which are interested in the continuation of the war between Iraq and Iran. He emphasized that the kingdom has not sought and is not now seeking the widening or the continuation of this war. It is making every possible effort to spare the blood [words indistinct] and resolve the differences and problems between the two Muslim countries by peaceful means.

This was stated after a meeting which Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz had today at the officer's club in Riyadh with senior armed forces officers. His royal highness spoke to them about the results of the third Islamic Conference summit and congratulated them on its success and the results it achieved to ensure the interests of the Islamic nation and to serve its fateful issues.

In response to a question from the AD-DIFA' correspondent about the Zionist information media clamor regarding the kingdom's intention to conclude modern arms deals with West Germany, his royal highness stressed that the fabrications are not surprising since they come from the Zionist information media. He said: We have not officially asked Germany for anything, if we did it would be our national right which we exercise out of our sovereignty, bearing in mind that we do not want to attack anyone.

His royal highness referred to the practices of the Zionist enemy and to its continuous aggression and arrogance, and said that the Israeli enemy does not want anyone to be strong or to be prepared to defend himself and his homeland, and therefore is always fabricating such disgraceful stories.

COMMENTARY ON WEINBERGER STATEMENT ABOUT MIDEAST

LD051018 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0640 GMT 5 Feb 81

[Text] Riyadh, 5 Feb (SPA)--AR-RIYAD has commented on the situations in the mind of the new American President, Reagan, concerning the Middle East problem. The paper has expressed its conviction that such solutions which are beginning to come to light would cause the region to enter a new explosive phase.

AR-RIYAD refers to the statement made by the new American defense secretary about his country's readiness to consider any request from the Israeli enemy for the stationing of American forces in occupied Palestine, and says that Washington is trying to answer the Soviets and to get the upper hand in the field of stockpiling destructive weapons in the heart of the region, a fact that will escalate the propaganda war between them and push the region toward further deterioration.

The paper calls on Europe to play a positive role to prevent the likelihood of a deterioration of the international situation. It says that the establishment of military bases in the Zionist entity is not surprising since America does not need the approval of this entity to establish such bases.

PDRY

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS DISCUSSES AT-TA'IF SUMMIT

LD041610 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 4 Feb 81 EA

[Text] The Council of Ministers yesterday evening held its regular meeting presided over the Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee of the YSP, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers.

The council examined a number of issues on its agenda, among them a report on the participation of our country's delegation, led by Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, in the third conference of Islamic states held in At-Ta'if. The council also discussed the delegation's role in the conference, its results and the bilateral meetings with a number of Arab and Muslim presidents and kings.

The council also heard a report on the visit of His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, the amir of Kuwait, to our country. The council expressed its gratification at the results of the visit and at the development of Kuwait-Yemen relations in the interest of the two brotherly peoples and major Arab causes.

MUSCAT REPORTS UNREST, STATE OF ALERT IN PDRY

LD311730 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 31 Jan 81 EA

[Text] Reports from Aden say that the authorities there on 15 January declared a maximum state of alert for the militia, but they did not mention the reason.

It became clear later that the order was issued by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, prime minister, upon receiving reports to the effect that 'Ali Antar, defense minister, was on the verge of leading a coup against the prime minister with the support of army units.

It is worth mentioning that after 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, in agreement with the Soviet Union, dismissed former President 'Abd al-Fattah Ismail from power--followed by his exile to the Soviet Union--a struggle for sole power broke out between 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, prime minister, and 'Ali Antar, defense minister, and their supporters. This struggle was coupled with a wave of political assassinations and incidents of abduction conducted in southern Yemen between circles of the two factions struggling for power.

AS-SADAT ADDRESSES NEPALESE KING'S BANQUET

NC042125 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2025 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Excerpts] Cairo, 4 Feb (MENA)--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has said that his discussions with Nepalese King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev were very successful, fruitful and constructive and that their views were identical on many world problems and their solutions. President as-Sadat said that he had accepted an invitation to visit Nepal and that he would wait for an opportunity to respond to it to meet with the Nepalese people. The president said that he had agreed with his majesty the king of Nepal to exchange delegations on all levels in order to strengthen relations between the Egyptian and Nepalese peoples.

This came in an address President as-Sadat made during a dinner banquet that the king and queen of Nepal gave in honor of His Excellency and Mrs as-Sadat in 'Abidin Palace tonight. In his address, the Nepalese king said the peace initiative was founded on a realistic basis and had the interest of his government and people.

President Anwar as-Sadat then delivered an address he began by saying: "In the name of God."

He then said in English: Our dear friends, their majesties the king and queen of Nepal. Ladies and gentlemen, it is a great opportunity to welcome the king and queen of Nepal to Egypt.

The president said: When I used to meet with his majesty the king in the various international meetings we attended, I was very eager for him to visit Egypt to get acquainted with its past and present as well as to discuss with me the problems of the area in which we live, because our problems are similar. The president added: Let me tell you that I have enjoyed the talks I had with the king to such an extent that I must admit that they were very successful, constructive and fruitful.

The president said: I must also admit that his majesty the king really is wise, which is why I was eager to sit with him and discuss the problems of the troubled world and their solutions. I frankly say now that I found wisdom, courage and inspiration in his majesty.

President as-Sadat added: This visit was very short, but I hope it will be only the beginning. I have accepted the invitation extended to me and my wife by the king to visit Nepal. I will wait for an opportunity to make the visit and meet with the people and Government of Nepal. The president added: We hope that the king and queen will pay us a long visit. What we have achieved during our talks and in the exchange of views must be strengthened and must continue. We also must exchange delegations at all levels as a contribution to stronger friendship between both peoples.

He continued: Before I conclude my speech, let me, on behalf of the Egyptian Government and people, my wife and myself, express my deep gratitude for the visit of the king and queen of Nepal. Let us hope for stronger ties and deeper friendship between our peoples--similar to those between you and me.

President as-Sadat then asked those present to salute the king and queen of Nepal and the friendship between the Egyptian and Nepalese people.

ROMANIAN MINISTER SIGNS CONTRACT, DEPARTS

Cement Factory Contract

NC041936 Cairo MENA in English 1900 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] Cairo, 4 Feb (MENA)--State Minister for Reconstruction, Housing and Land Reclamation Engineer Hasaballah al-Kafrawi today signed with the Romanian deputy prime minister and minister of agriculture currently on a visit to Cairo a contract to set up a cement factory in Naj' Hammadi, Upper Egypt.

Engineer al-Kafrawi on this occasion delivered a speech in which he indicated the importance of the project in promoting cooperation and friendship between Egypt and Romania and in providing the construction needs of Egypt in cement. The project will produce two million tons of cement annually after its construction, which will last three years.

The minister indicated that the project will cost two hundred and twenty dollars [as received] and the Romanian side will contribute seventy percent of its cost in the form of a loan at a two and a half per cent interest. Al-Kafrawi added that he had agreed with the Romanian minister that his country will, in cooperation with Egypt, set up a project for land reclamation and horizontal expansion in agriculture.

The Romanian minister in his speech affirmed that his country was prepared to cooperate with Egypt in various fields to promote the Egyptian economy and contribute in strengthening the tie of friendship between the two countries.

5 Feb Departure

NC051013 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0835 GMT 5 Feb 81

[Text] Cairo, 5 Feb (MENA)--Romanian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Agriculture Angelo Miculescu left Cairo this morning on his way home at the end of a 4-day visit to Egypt.

During his visit to Egypt, Mr Miculescu held talks with En Hasaballah al-Kafrawi, the minister of reconstruction and minister of state for housing and land reclamation, on various aspects of cooperation between Egypt and Romania in the agricultural, land reclamation and food security spheres.

The Romanian minister and Al-Kafrawi yesterday signed a protocol for economic and technical cooperation between Egypt and Romania in the fields of land reclamation and food security.

AFP REPORTS JAPANESE RED ARMY AIRPORT RAID PLOT

NC041403 Paris AFP in English 1346 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] Cairo, 4 Feb (AFP)--Egyptian security forces uncovered a planned sabotage operation by the Japanese Red Army and other terrorist groups at Cairo's international airport, official sources confirmed here today. The operation, similar to the attack on Lod airport in Israel in May 1972, when 26 people were killed and 78 were hurt by Red Army members operating for Palestinians, was planned for two weeks ago, the sources said.

Tight security was imposed on the airport to prevent the attack.

News of the planned attack was first broken in proof copies of the magazine MAY which is to become the official organ of President Anwar as-Sadat's new democrat party.

RAMADAN ON STRENGTH OF ECONOMY, POPULAR ARMY

JN041415 Baghdad INA in English 1250 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] Baghdad, (INA)--Revolution Command Council member and commander-in-chief of the Iraqi Popular Army, Taha Yasin Ramadan, said 32,000 Popular Army members are stationed in different battlefields fighting the Iranian aggressors side-by-side with the Iraqi Armed Forces.

In a press conference he held here last night on the occasion of the 18th anniversary of 8th February 1963, revolution and the 11th anniversary of the establishment of the Popular Army, Mr. Ramadan added that the Popular Army numbers to more than 250,000 fighters now. He pointed out that the number of non-party Kurds and other minority people in the Popular Army among the autonomous region inhabitants is over 25,000 fighters. The commander-in-chief of the Popular Army said the Popular Army's command has built bilateral relations with similar organization in Yugoslavia and Vietnam, in order to benefit from similar experiences in these two countries.

Speaking about Iraq's economic situation, Mr. Ramadan, who also holds the post of first deputy prime minister said the 1981 plan and investment programme allocations exceed 25 billion dollars, i.e. 28 percent more than last year's. He added that Iraqi economy is strong and exceptional, and its hard currency is perfect despite that 5 months already passed on the beginning of the war with Iran. Mr. Ramadan concluded that the allocations to subsidize consumptive materials paid by the state raised from 650 million dollars in 1980 to 1,100 million dollars in 1981.

[Baghdad INA in Arabic at 1255 GMT on 4 February carries a similar report, adding the following: "The commander in chief of the Popular Army announced that large numbers of Arab brothers are participating in the fighting against the racist Persian enemy within the popular army formations in the battlefronts. He said that the number of Arab participants amounts to more than 5,000 fighters, most of whom are Palestinian brothers. He added that huge numbers of Arab brothers are waiting to take part in Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah battle."]

SADDAM HUSAYN CHAIRS CABINET MEETING 3 FEB

GF031154 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Feb 81

[Text] President and General Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the armed forces, has called for continued enthusiasm from the people and army in order to preserve victory and strengthen the spirit of victory. While presiding over a Cabinet meeting this morning, Saddam Husayn stressed the importance of discipline in a society, for discipline is one of the requirements for building the new man and for discharging his responsibilities.

Revolution Command Council member and Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz reviewed the role played by President Saddam Husayn and the delegation accompanying him at the third Islamic Conference summit. Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi discussed the Iraqi delegation's activities at the Islamic foreign ministers conference.

The 3-hour meeting was attended by Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf, First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan and Revolution Command Council members.

RAMADAN RECEIVES BULGARIAN, YUGOSLAV AMBASSADORS

JN041742 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1710 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Feb (INA)--Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, has received a written message addressed to President Saddam Husayn from Bulgaria's State Council Chairman Todor Zhivkov. The message was delivered by Bulgarian Ambassador to Iraq Angel Georgiev Angelov when he was received by Ramadan today.

The two sides also discussed the progress of work of the Bulgarian companies in Iraq and the efforts to broaden the base of bilateral economic and technical cooperation in implementation of the agreements concluded during Ramadan's visit to Bulgaria last September to establish exemplary and advanced relations between the two countries in all fields.

Ramadan also received today Yugoslav Ambassador to Iraq Sivko Mucalov. The two sides discussed the possibility of expanding the activities of Yugoslav companies in Iraq to promote economic and technical cooperation between the two countries. The two sides also stressed their desire to exploit all potentials for the expansion of bilateral cooperation in the interest of the two countries in all fields.

ECONOMIC TALKS WITH CUBA BEGIN IN BAGHDAD 4 FEB

JN042036 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] The meetings of the second session of the Iraqi-Cuban Joint Commission for Economic and Technical Cooperation began at the Trade Ministry this evening. Hasan 'Ali, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and trade minister, presided over the Iraqi side; Hector Rodriguez Llompart, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and minister president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, presided over the Cuban side.

At the beginning of the meeting, the RCC member said that the creation of this commission is a positive step along the path of consolidating the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries. The commission, he said, also contributes to expanding the volume of trade exchange and creating ideal relations between two countries affiliated with the nonaligned movement in the service of their two peoples' interests. He said that the militant relations linking Iraq with Cuba stem from the same noble principles advocated by the nonaligned movement and expressing the real needs of the Third World peoples, who have suffered much from hegemony, threats and exploitation of their wealth and national patrimony by the imperialist forces. He underscored the importance of this session as it coincides with the battle our struggling country is waging against the racist Persian enemy for the sake of restoring our legitimate rights over our lands and waters and of preventing interference in our country's internal affairs. Hasan 'Ali reviewed the dimensions of the country's comprehensive development plans to create the new Iraq and build the Arab individual capable of confronting challenges.

Hector Rodriguez Llompart, in turn, spoke and expressed pleasure at visiting Iraq and meeting with its officials within the framework of consolidating the friendly relations between Iraq and Cuba and increasing the volume of trade exchange and economic cooperation between them. He expressed his high confidence that the meetings will achieve successful and fruitful results in the service of the Iraqi and Cuban peoples.

The meeting was attended on the Iraqi side by Qasim Taqi, under secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Minerals and deputy chairman of the Iraqi-Cuban Joint Commission, and a number of [illegible]ists; and on the Cuban side by the Cuban delegation members and the Cuban ambassador in Baghdad.

OIL MINISTER CONFERS WITH CAPE VERDIAN MINISTER

JN041426 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1310 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Feb (INA)--Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, Revolution Command Council member and oil minister, received here today Osvaldo Lopes da Silva, Cape Verdian minister of economic cooperation, and his delegation. The two sides reviewed bilateral relations and the scope of promoting them in the field of oil in the joint interest of their two friendly peoples and in light of Iraq's concern for the Third World states, particularly those in Africa.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE 237

JN041659 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Feb (INA)--During the past 24 hours, the Iraqi forces killed 140 Iranian enemy troops and downed 3 Phantom planes. A military communique issued by the Armed Forces General Command this evening said that the Iraqi forces also destroyed 4 Iranian tanks, 3 armored personnel carriers, 20 vehicles, 1 excavator, 5 guns of various calibers, 2 rocket launchers, 2 observation posts and 1 cylindrical launcher. The Iraqi losses were put at 38 martyrs in all sectors and the damage of 3 tanks, 5 vehicles, 2 guns and 1 mortar. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 237 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant armed forces continue to thwart the desperate enemy attempts to attack our positions, inflicting heavy losses in equipment and lives on the enemy. Following are the results of our forces' activities last night and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Nine were killed and one gun was destroyed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region.

B. Our units engaged with various weapons the enemy troop, armor and vehicle concentrations in the region opposite our positions in the Sayf Sa'd region, killing 58 and destroying 3 tanks, 4 vehicles, 1 gun, 1 cylindrical launcher and 1 rocket launcher. Our helicopters also raided enemy targets in the same region and destroyed one tank, three armored personnel carriers and one vehicle before returning safely to base.

C. One enemy was killed and one gun was destroyed in the Mehran region.

D. Our units opened artillery and mortar fire on the enemy troops and vehicle concentrations in the Dezful region, killing 23 and destroying 11 vehicles and 1 observation post.

E. An enemy concentration was sighted opposite our positions in the Shush region. Our forces opened fire on it and forced it to flee, leaving behind 24 dead. Our forces also destroyed one gun and one observation post in the same region.

F. An enemy force tried to approach our positions in the Ahvaz region. Our forces confronted it and forced it to retreat, leaving behind 15 dead, 1 excavator and 1 rocket launcher.

G. Our units engaged the enemy troops and positions in the Abadan region, killing 10 and destroying 4 vehicles, 1 laden with ammunition, and 1 gun. In addition our field guns shot down three Phantom fighter planes this afternoon when they tried to raid our positions in the same region.

Thus, the total known enemy losses amount to 140 dead; 4 tanks; 3 armored personnel carriers; 20 vehicles; 1 excavator; 5 guns of various calibers; 2 rocket launchers; 2 observation posts; in addition to 3 Phantom fighter planes.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 38 martyrs in all sectors.

B. In equipment: Three tanks, five vehicles, two guns and one mortar gun were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 4 February 1981

PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES ALGERIAN DELEGATION

JN041304 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] Prime Minister Mudar Badran received at his office today the Algerian National People's Assembly delegation which is currently visiting Jordan, led by Deputy Speaker (Sa'id 'Abbado). The meeting was attended by the Senate President Bahjat at-Talhuni and the Algerian ambassador in Amman.

During the meeting the two sides discussed the general situation in the region, bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries and means to consolidate them. They also discussed the forthcoming Arab parliamentary union conference scheduled to convene in Algeria next month.

REAGAN'S REMARKS ON ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS VIEWED

JN040735 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 4 Feb 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headling "Reagan's Remarks Constitute a Provocative Stand," the newspaper AD-DUSTUR says: At a time when officials in the new U.S. administration are talking about reassessing and reconsidering U.S. policy on the Arab-Israeli conflict; at a time when the resolutions of the Islamic Conference summit are still reverberating in the air regarding Jerusalem and the Palestinian issue; at a time when His Majesty King Husayn and Arab leaders are calling upon the new U.S. administration to free itself of the burdens of Washington's past erroneous stands on the Palestinian issue; and at a time when Arab-U.S. relations have suffered a regression due to the former administration's policy and its mistakes, which have begun to threaten the interests of both sides, U.S. President Ronald Reagan has come up with fresh remarks which completely contradict the concepts of peace, constitute a frank provocation of Arabs and reflect an ignorance of the facts, aspects and complexities of the Arab-Zionist conflict.

President Reagan believes that the settlements which Israel established on occupied Arab land in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Golan are not illegitimate. However, he criticizes the establishment of more such settlements. In other words, he is legitimizing existing settlements and rejecting future ones. Israel will accept the first part of this opinion and inevitably ignore the rest of it.

AD-DUSTUR adds: His interpretation of UN Security Council Resolution 242 was odd and contradictory, indicating his ignorance of the resolution and its provisions, particularly the provision stipulating the inadmissibility of forcible seizure of the land of others. The settlements in the occupied land are being established by forcible seizure of this land and its gradual usurpation from its rightful owners to create a new reality that fully contradicts the principles of the Geneva Convention and human rights.

President Reagan calls on Arab countries to recognize Israel's right to exist as a first step which he believes is essential for peace, ignoring or not knowing the fact that it is Israel itself which is rejecting the Palestinians' right to exist and that the motto on the gate of the Knesset says that the State of Israel extends from the Euphrates to the Nile.

AD-DUSTUR concludes: We saw some promising signs when the U.S. secretary of state pointed out the illegitimacy of Israel's annexation of Jerusalem, saying that there are other sides concerned with the issue of Jerusalem. However, President Reagan has deliberately put his secretary of state and administration in a position that cannot be justified or accepted. We hope that it was no more than a slip of the tongue.

The U.S. President went further than his predecessor Carter who was satisfied with denouncing Zionist settlement without pressuring Israel to stop it. He deliberately aroused the indignation of the Arabs and Muslims a few days after the Arab and Islamic nation's unanimous agreement at the summit conference in holy Mecca to seek to regain the occupied land and Jerusalem and to wrest the Palestinians' rights from their usurpers.

JORDAN TIMES VIEWS REAGAN'S FIRST INTERVIEW

JN050914 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 5-6 Feb 81 p 2

[Editorial: "Clearing the Hurdles"]

[Text] Which is worse--a U.S. president who doesn't pretend to pursue an "even-handed" policy in the Middle East, or one whose interpretation of "even-handedness" boils down to riding roughshod over one party until it gives in to the excesses of the other?

This latter style is what emerges most forcefully from the portions of President Ronald Reagan's first White House interview in which he addressed the Middle East question.

We admit that there are some new, even tantalisingly encouraging, approaches apparent in Mr. Reagan's discourse. While he starts from the "number one" premise of Israel's "right to continue living as a nation"--an unchanging and unchangeable precept of U.S. foreign policy--Mr. Reagan goes to characterise Israeli colonisation practices in the occupied West Bank of Jordan as "unnecessarily provocative"--and when was the last time that a U.S. president admitted even that much implied criticism of Israel among his first utterances?

But Mr. Reagan has a most peculiar notion of Israel as an asset to the U.S., which he sees in terms not only of its "democratic approach to things" (such as the blatantly oppressive practices of the military government on the West Bank?) but also of its "combat-experienced military" (ready, presumably, to take on any foe in the name of democracy!).

And if that, in Mr. Reagan's view, doesn't make Israel more sinned against than sinning, then the attitudes of "those nations in the Middle East that refuse to recognise the right of Israel to exist" certainly do. Peace will come, the President says, when "those nations" do so recognise that right; the converse, that peace will come when Israel recognises the right of the people whom it had displaced by terror and dispossessed by force likewise to exist in the land of their birth, does not seem to occur to him. Mr. Reagan speaks of these (presumably Arab) nations as a "hurdle" to be overcome in the name of Israel; he tellingly cites Egypt as an example.

What, then, in Mr. Reagan's analysis, of the Palestinians? Their "aspirations", he says, have "to be a part of any settlement". (A small step forward, a la Mr. Carter's early "homeland" pronouncement?) But, oh yes, there is "the terrorism that is being practised by the PLO", of course. And there is the question of whether the PLO has "ever been elected by the Palestinians" (was Mr. Reagan elected by an absolute majority, when only 42 percent of Americans, who do not live under conditions of occupation and dispersal, voted at all?). Mr. Reagan says it has never been "definitely established" that the Palestinians recognise the PLO as their leadership; we invite him to ask any Palestinian, in the occupied areas, in Israel itself, in the camps, in exile, about that.

Perhaps we should take heart from the fact that the question of the new President's sympathy, or lack of it, for the Palestinians arose at all in this maiden interview. Certainly, we should continue to present the facts of this "best case in the world" to the new administration in the hopes that it does intend, in America's own interest, to try to be a bit more "even-handed"--for however the Reagan team come to define those interests and that even-handedness, we have no doubt that there is a chance for justice to prevail. The real "hurdle" to be got over is that of ignorance.

UNIFIL COMMANDER STRESSES UN ROLE IN LEBANON

NC050702 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 5 Feb 81

[Text] UNIFIL commander General Erskine has said at a farewell party held in southern Lebanon on the occasion of his transfer that the UN forces are unable to stop the fighting in the south and that the withdrawal of the UN forces will lead to Israel's invasion of the area thereby raising the danger of clashes with the Syrian forces in Lebanon and the possibility of the outbreak of another war in the area.

Erskine said that he is not very optimistic at present. He added that one of the most important achievements of the UN forces was encouraging the residents to return to southern Lebanon following the withdrawal of Israeli forces in March 1978.

UAE PRESIDENT PLEDGES FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO ADF

JN041600 Doha QNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] Beirut, 4 Feb (QNA)--UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nugayyan has declared his country's commitment to Arab unanimity with regard to financing the ADF in Lebanon.

The president said this in reply to reporters' questions when he stopped at Beirut airport enroute to London today.

The president praised the Lebanese people's courage in confronting crises and harsh conditions during the past years. He expressed hope that Lebanon will return to its previous prosperity and stability.

CSSR TRADE MINISTER ENDS TALKS; DEPARTS 5 FEB

NC050737 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 5 Feb 81

[Text] The Czechoslovak deputy minister of foreign trade and the delegation accompanying him left Beirut at 0730 today. The Czechoslovak official expressed his satisfaction at the outcome of his talks in Beirut with officials in the Economy Ministry and economic and development organizations. He pointed out at the airport that there is a draft trade agreement which will be studied during the exchange of visits by economic delegations.

BRIEFS

COSTA RICAN AMBASSADOR--President Ilyas Sarkis today received the credentials of Miguel Yamuni as ambassador extraordinary of the Republic of Costa Rica to Lebanon. [Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 5 Feb 81 NC]

UK'S IAN GILMOUR ARRIVES 4 FEB, BEGINS TALKS

Morning Arrival

JN041250 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] Damascus--Ian Gilmour, British deputy foreign minister, arrived here at 1130 today on a 3-day visit to Syria.

Khaddam Reception

JN041307 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1230 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] Damascus, 4 Feb (SANA)--'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign affairs minister received at noon today Ian Gilmour, British deputy foreign minister.

The meeting was attended by: Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs; Rafiq Jawjati, head of the [word indistinct] Europe Department in the Foreign Ministry; and the British ambassador in Damascus.

During the meeting the international situation in general and the situation in the Middle East in particular were reviewed.

Al-Asad Meeting

JN041712 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] At 1245 today His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad received Ian Gilmour, British deputy foreign minister, and his delegation. The meeting was attended by British Ambassador in Damascus Patrick Richard Wright.

The discussion centered on the situation in the Middle East and the role Europe could play to serve just peace in the area. His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad stressed that the Camp David agreements have failed to achieve peace in the area. He said that Europe can contribute to the establishment of a just peace in the area especially since Europe shoulders a moral responsibility toward the Arab nation. To enable Europe to perform a successful role, however, it should adopt an independent initiative which will contain a comprehensive concept of a solution. If Europe's initiative is not independent, then it will not succeed and if the European initiative is linked to other initiatives and the opinions of others, it will become an exact replica of the initiative adopted by others. There can be no other peace than a comprehensive and just peace. Discussion of the issue in parcels will never lead to a solution. President Hafiz al-Asad also reiterated the Palestinian Arab people's rights to a state on their soil and the exercise of all their other national rights.

Ian Gilmour said that European countries have a serious and independent intent to break the deadlock. Gilmour also expressed thanks and appreciation for the clarifications made by his excellency the president.

AMMAN PAPER SAYS ALGERIA'S BENDJEDID PLANNING TOUR

JN051313 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Feb 81

[Text] Citing special Algerian sources, the Jordanian newspaper AKHBAR AL-USBU' reports today that Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid will soon tour the Arab states, including Jordan. The paper says that the tour of the Algerian National People's Assembly delegation, currently in Jordan, is a prelude to this tour.

SYRIAN, USSR JOURNALISTS UNIONS SIGN AGREEMENT

JN040649 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 3 Feb 81

[Text] The Syrian Journalists Union and the USSR Union of Journalists signed a cooperation agreement at the Syrian Journalists Union headquarters today.

The agreement was signed for Syria by Fu'ad Ballat, secretary of the Syrian Journalists Union and for the Soviet Union by Dzhanybek Tursunov, member of the Secretariat at the USSR Union of Journalists and editor in chief of SOVETTIK KYRGYSTAN.

The agreement covers the promotion of relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries' unions and the struggle against the common enemy represented by world imperialism led by the United States and against Zionism and reaction. The agreement also stipulates the need to support progressive press and journalists in the world.

TISHRIN LINKS EUROPEAN 'MOVE' TO ISRAELI SECURITY

JN050834 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 5 Feb 81

[Excerpts] In a commentary entitled "So That Europe May Play a Successful Role," the newspaper TISHRIN says: If the European move remains based on the European questions, which well-informed Palestinian sources described as furthering of Israeli interests and security; if it continues to aim at saving Camp David from a dead end; and if it remains under the U.S. umbrella and within the context of asking King Husayn's help to bypass the dilemma of Palestinian representation--although King Husayn has been elected by neither the Jordanians nor the Palestinians, nor has proven to anyone that he definitely represents any of the Arabs, as Reagan wants the PLO to prove--then the fate of the European move and the initiative which will be based on it are a dead end.

If a book may be understood from its title, the title of this initiative has been, and still is, Europe's interest in us and Israeli security. The initiative comprises fragmentation of the cause into several issues, namely: the Palestine cause, the issue of Israeli withdrawal, the issue of Israeli security and the issue of the Palestinian people.

So as not to fall into the trap of talking about the initiative, since it is we who are warning against falling into such a trap, we reiterate that our only stand is this: The key to the cause is in our own hands.

Inasmuch as our stand is unified, our preparedness is high and our strength is feared, we will be able to defend our rights and cause, to apply pressure for the implementation of international resolutions and to refuse every initiative which does not serve our pan-Arab interest.

ALGERIA

BEN YAHIA, CSSR'S CHNOUPEK HOLD TALKS 4 FEB

LD050040 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0000 GMT 5 Feb 81

[Text] Algerian-Czechoslovak talks continued yesterday at the Foreign Ministry headquarters. Taking part were two delegations headed by Foreign Minister Mohamed Ben Yahia and his Czechoslovak counterpart Bohuslav Chnoupek. The talks dealt with bilateral relations, the means to ensure their consolidation and the expanding cooperation between the two countries. The talks also dealt with the international situation in general.

At the Justice Ministry headquarters a ceremony took place at which an agreement between Algeria and Czechoslovakia on judicial cooperation was signed. The agreement was signed on behalf of the Algerian side by Justice Minister Boualem Baki and by the Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek for Czechoslovakia.

The agreement seeks in particular to strengthen cooperation between the two countries in the field of civil and commercial law and (?to facilitate) measures on criminal affairs and the extradition of criminals.

NETHERLANDS FOREIGN MINISTER ADDRESSES PRESS

LD041330 Algiers APS in English 1114 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] Algiers, 4 Feb (APS)--"I am confident that it is possible to go further in the search for a solution to problems of security in the world, to the Palestinian people's rights and to occupied territories", said yesterday the Dutch foreign minister, Mr Christoph van der Klaauw before he left Algiers at the end of a three day official visit to Algeria.

Mr van der Klaauw was addressing a press conference. Asked whether Europe will take a peace initiative regarding the problem of the Middle East he answered "We must do our utmost to find a right solution because the Middle East is the area where risks of conflagration are most evident".

The Dutch foreign minister, who is also president of the council of the European Economic Community (EEC) added that he will shortly go to Washington to seek the new administration's attitude towards the problem of the Middle East. He will also hold talks with the Arab League Secretary General Mr Chedli Klibi during a full month tour in about 30 countries.

As for his stay in Algeria, Mr van der Klaauw said he was very pleased with the talks he had with Algerian officials. "I think that they (the talks) will contribute to the reinforcement of our bilateral commercial, cultural and technological relations", he said.

The Dutch minister recalled that he had been received by President Chadli Bendjedid and Prime Minister Mohamed Abdelghani. He disclosed that during these audiences problems pertaining to peoples' self determination, detente and North-South dialogue have been discussed. "On this last point (North-South dialogue), our attitudes are very close to each other", he said.

During his stay in Algeria, Mr van der Klaauw was received by President Chadli, Prime Minister Abdelghani and Mr Selim Saadi, minister of agriculture. He held two work sessions with Mr Mohamed Ben Yahia, foreign minister.

During the talks with Mr Ben Yahia, the two sides decided to sign an agreement of technical and cultural cooperation.

Mr van der Klaauw announced that the Netherlands decided to grant Algeria 5 million florins (about 10 million Algerian dinars) for the reconstruction of Al-Asnam which was stricken on Oct 10 by an earthquake.

The head of the Dutch diplomacy also met with Mr Belkacem Nabi, minister of energy and petrochemical industries, Mr Mohamed Yala, minister of finance and Mr Ali O'Bouzar, secretary of state to exterior trade whom Mr van der Klaauw invited to visit the Netherlands.

Mr Christoph van der Klaauw was seen off at his departure by Mr Mohamed Ben Yahia, FLN CC member, foreign minister and several senior officials.

LIBYA

POLAND'S JAGIELSKI VISITS, HOLDS TALKS, DEPARTS

Committee Meetings

LD041616 Tripoli JANA in English 1514 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] Tripoli, 4 Feb (JANA)--The Libyan-Polish joint committee this morning held a meeting at the Secretariat of the People's Committee for Land Reclamation and Agrarian Reform.

Mr Bashir Jawda, the secretary of the People's Committee for Land Reclamation and Agrarian Reform, attended the meeting on the Libyan side, and Dr Mieczyslaw Jagielski, deputy prime minister and member of the Politburo of the Polish United Workers' Party, on the Polish side. The meeting reviewed the resolutions of the 3rd session of the Joint Committee for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation held in Warsaw on 12th of July 1980. Both sides expressed their satisfaction with the positive results they reached which are considered a concrete base for promoting and developing this cooperation.

Jallud Meeting

LD050940 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 5 Feb 81

[Text] Tripoli, 5 Feb (JANA)--Yesterday morning Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud received the deputy chairman of the Polish council of state and member of the PZPR political bureau, M. Jagielski. Present at the meeting was the secretary of the General People's Committee for Agrarian Reform and Land Reclamation.

4 Feb Departure

LD050944 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 5 Feb 81

[Text] Tripoli, 4 Feb (JANA)--The deputy chairman of the Polish council of state and member of the PZPR political bureau, M. Jagielski, left Tripoli last night at the end of his visit to the Jamahiriyah during which he attended the meetings of the joint Libyan-Polish committee. Yesterday evening the secretary of the General People's Committee for Agrarian Reform and Land Reclamation and the deputy chairman of the Polish Council of State signed the minutes of the third session of the joint Libyan-Polish committee for cooperation in the economic, scientific, technical, agricultural, building and construction fields.

MOROCCO

EUROPEAN DELEGATION EVALUATES SAHARAN CONFLICT

LD041426 Rabat MAP in English 1205 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] The Hague, 4 Feb (MAP)--General Wolfgang Schall, West German MP who had recently headed a seven-member delegation from the European Parliament in a five day visit to Morocco that led them as far as the Moroccan Sahara, presented here Monday evening the conclusions drawn by the European nation.

The report mainly states that the "Polisario," a front pretending to be a movement for liberating Western Sahara does not represent any people. It is merely an international group which is introduced, with the help of the Soviet Union's propaganda apparatus, as the representative of a people. It is nothing more than a foreign legion of 6,000 well-paid mercenaries. This legion aims at dividing the Kingdom of Morocco to the profit of the socialist republics of Algeria and Libya in order to allow the latters to have access to the Atlantic Ocean, right opposite the strategic Canary Islands.

In their report, the European MPs expressed their admiration for the way the Royal Armed Forces ensure the protection of the populations of towns and villages in Saharan provinces.

They also underlined that the "Polisario" uses very modern sophisticated Soviet weapons and that its members are being trained by Algerians, Libyans, Soviets and East Germans.

The report further [word indistinct] that the "Polisario" is financially supported by Libya, and that most members of its so-called liberation movement come from Algeria, Libya, Mali, Chad, and Mauritania.

"Only a small minority of Sahraouis, about 1,000, is member of the "Polisario." It is nonetheless strongly officered by 500 communist instructors, stated the report.

The European delegation also declared that it had noticed on the field that the operations launched by "the Polisario" were useless as they always encounter the defense line set up by Moroccans on more than 500 km.

"The population" the "Polisario" pretends to represent leads a peaceful life in the new villages built 200 km to the west of the defense line," indicated the report.

The members of the European Parliament concluded their report outlining that "in this combat for peace, liberty, stability in North Africa and even in the interest of Europe, Morocco cannot remain alone. It deserves all the moral and material support of the peoples of the free Western world."

SUDAN

VICE PRESIDENT RECEIVES UGANDAN CHIEF OF STAFF

JN041530 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] Gen 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil, first vice president, defense minister and commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces, received this morning Brig Gen David Ojite Ojok, the Ugandan chief of staff, and his delegation.

The two sides reviewed bilateral relations and the means of promoting these relations. The Ugandan chief of staff conveyed an oral message to Vice President Khalil addressed to President Numayri from his excellency the Ugandan president dealing with the means of further strengthening bilateral relations.

TUNISIA

TUNISIA, COLOMBIA ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

LD041454 Tunis TAP in English 1401 GMT 4 Feb 81

["Pool" item]

[Text] Tunis, 4 Feb (TAP)--"The government of Tunisia and the government of Colombia have decided to establish diplomatic relations on the level of ambassadors, starting from January 20, 1961."

POPULAR UNITY MOVEMENT SPAWNS OPPOSITION GROUP

LD041129 Paris LE MONDE in French 31 Jan 81 p 15

[Michel Deure dispatch: "Internal Crisis Splits Popular Unity Movement"]

[Text] Tunis--The crisis splitting the Popular Unity Movement (MUP)--which espouses the socialist policy pursued before 1970 and whose secretary general is former Minister of Economy Ahmed Ben Salah--has now become public after lying dormant for several months. Four of its leaders in Tunisia, (Mohamed Bel Hadj, Amor Mouni Kachoukh, Jalloul Azzouna and Mohamed Daoud), have parted from their friends in the leadership. Nevertheless, they claim to be acting with the approval of the majority of party members and recently filed an application at the Ministry of Interior for authorization to set themselves up as a party. They are also preparing to start moves to publish a newspaper--L'UNITE POPULAIRE.

Disciplinary Council

The MUP Politburo has responded immediately by deciding to "freeze" their membership in the movement and to bring them before a disciplinary council. It believes that it is a matter of a "deviation" and of a "maneuver" by the regime aimed at splitting the opposition currents and having an "MUP without Ben Saleh" as interlocutors.

The four people concerned say in reply to these accusations that there is no question for them of beginning a dialogue with the government until a general amnesty has been proclaimed and the constitution's provisions concerning freedom of association and of the press are observed. They explain their move on the grounds of lack of democracy within the movement and their concern to preserve its independence from all outside interference. Their principal grievance is directed against Ben Saleh, whom they criticize for expressing, on their behalf, unreserved support for Iraq in the conflict between it and Iran in the Baghdad Ba'th Party newspaper ATH-THAWRAH.

The MUP is the second opposition movement, following that of Ahmed Mestiri's Democratic Socialists, to officially seek its establishment as a political party, the Tunisian Communist Party having been merely "suspended from its activities" since January 1963.

AUTHORITIES CLARIFY POSITION ON U.S. TROOPS

TA041252 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Report by David Essing summing up Jerusalem reaction to U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger's statement that Washington will consider any Israeli request for U.S. troops to be stationed in Israel--recorded]

[Text] Authoritative Israeli sources today made clear that the Begin government has never requested the stationing of American troops in Israel. On the contrary, a linchpin of Israeli-U.S. relations has always been that Israel can defend herself and does not need American troops as a backup. In the wake of American setbacks--the revolution in Iran and the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan--Prime Minister Begin urged a stronger American military presence in the region. As an Israeli contribution, Begin had said that he'd recommend the Israeli Government grant military facilities to the U.S., if Washington so desired.

In this connection, the Israeli sources note that American Defense Secretary Weinberger said he'd be surprised if Israel did ask for American troops. But on the other hand, Weinberger showed no sign of taking up Begin's offer.

In Washington today, American Secretary of State Alexander Haig is expected to indicate the general thrust of Reagan's Middle East policy when he sees Israeli Ambassador Efrayim 'Evron. Israel hopes that Haig will reiterate American support for the Camp David process and the negotiations on Palestinian autonomy. At the same time, 'Evron will likely express Israel's opposition to the sale of sophisticated American weaponry for Saudi Arabia's F-15 warplanes. The proposed bomb racks and long-range fuel tanks will boost the F-15's capability to attack Israeli targets from their bases in Saudi Arabia.

On this score, Weinberger seemed to indicate he favors the same, despite Riyadh's latest calls for a jihad--holy war--against Israel.

One report has it today that America's ambassador to Israel, Samuel Lewis, has been quietly advising Israeli officials to back off the F-15 issue and seek compensation from Washington.

SHAMIR TO MEET HAIG, VISIT CENTRAL AMERICA

TA051152 Jerusalem POST in English 5 Feb 81 p 1

[By Washington correspondent Wolf Blitzer]

[Text] Washington--Israeli Ambassador Efrayim 'Evron yesterday said that U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig has agreed to meet Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir later this month in Washington.

U.S. sources later said the meeting would take place sometime between February 18-20 during Shamir's stopover in the U.S. on the way to Latin America.

'Evron, who met with Haig yesterday for 45 minutes said that he was very pleased "and happy" about the conversation with the secretary.

But 'Evron acknowledged differences between the U.S. and Israel over the possible sale of advanced accessories for Saudi Arabia's F-15 fighters.

Asked about the stationing of U.S. troops in Israel, 'Evron said that Israel would sympathetically consider such a request if made officially by the U.S.

A day earlier, Defence Secretary Weinberger said he would consider an Israeli request "sympathetically."

Yesterday's meeting was requested by 'Evron who, like other foreign envoys here, has been anxious to meet with senior Reagan administration officials to get a better sense of possible shifts in U.S. policy.

'Evron was among the first ambassadors in Washington to be received personally by Haig.

David Landau adds:

Foreign Minister Shamir will visit Mexico and other Central American countries after meeting Haig.

The visit to Mexico and other countries in the area is still being finalized and therefore has not yet been officially announced.

Ambassador 'Evron has been instructed to raise with the new American administration the issue of Sinai peacekeeping arrangements, it was reliably learned in Jerusalem. Israel, Egypt and the U.S. are pledged to begin intensive negotiations on this matter in April--one year before the date of Israel's final withdrawal from the peninsula.

The Camp David peace package provided for a UN presence at Sharm ash-Shaykh and along the eastern coastline, or, failing that, the creation of a "multinational" force. Israel has indicated recently that it would like to see the U.S. itself participate in such a force.

'Evron's meeting with Haig coincided with a spate of diplomatic activity in Jerusalem and Cairo. U.S. envoy Samuel Lewis met here with Premier Begin and Israel's ambassador in Egypt, Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, spent more than an hour with President as-Sadat.

But well-placed sources here discouraged speculation that any major new initiative is in the offing. They said Ben-Elisar had asked to meet the Egyptian president in order to maintain "the ongoing high-level dialogue," and the meeting was immediately set up--only one day after the envoy had met with Vice President Husni Mubarak.

U.S. TRYING TO HEAD OFF ANGER OVER ARMS DEAL

TA051145 Jerusalem POST in English 5 Feb 81 pp 1,2

[By Washington correspondent Wolf Blitzer]

[Excerpts] Washington--The Reagan administration, apparently anxious to meet Saudi Arabia's request for advanced accessories for its F-15 fighter bombers, is trying to head off an angry response from Israel and its supporters in the American Jewish community and on Capital Hill.

The matter was reportedly raised yesterday during Secretary of State Alexander Haig's first meeting since taking office with Israeli Ambassador Efrayim 'Evron at the State Department.

Israel opposes the upgrading of the 62 F-15s, scheduled to start arriving in Saudi Arabia later this year. Israeli officials fear that the requested bomb-racks, auxilliary fuel tanks and other sophisticated equipment would add an offensive capability to the aircraft, thereby endangering Israel.

But the Saudis are making a test case of the issue. Through diplomatic channels, they have warned the new Reagan administration that a refusal to provide the equipment would seriously strain U.S.-Saudi ties.

Two years ago, when the Carter administration won congressional approval for the F-15 package sale, the Saudis were denied the advanced equipment.

But Reagan administration sources contend that the situation in the Middle East in the wake of the Iran-Iraq war has deteriorated, and that the Saudis now have a genuine need for the equipment.

Diplomatic sources here suggested yesterday that the administration might try to ease Jerusalem's concern by simultaneously offering Israel some additional military equipment, or by providing some new political assurances that its security will not be adversely affected.

These sources referred to Weinberger's statement at his news conference on Tuesday that the administration would "sympathetically" consider dispatching U.S. troops to Israel in the "surprising" event that such a request were officially made by Israel.

Some sources here linked Weinberger's remarks about the stationing of troops in Israel with his sympathetic consideration of the Saudi aircraft deal. "He wants to be on good terms with the Saudis and the Israelis," one U.S. source commented.

AMBASSADOR IN CAIRO CONFERS WITH AS-SADAT

TA041732 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] The Israeli ambassador in Egypt has conferred with President as-Sadat. At the end of the meeting the ambassador said that favorable developments should be expected in the normalization process. Ambassador Ben-Elisar told our correspondent, Arye Gus, that several points had been agreed upon during the talk. The spokesman of the Israeli Embassy in Cairo said that the issue of progress in the peace process in our area was raised at the meeting and that the atmosphere had been very friendly.

DAYAN HOLDING DISCUSSIONS ON POLITICAL FUTURE

TA041220 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 4 Feb 81 p 1

[By Avi Bettelheim]

[Text] Rahel [Hebrew acronym for "national emergency list," and also the name of Dayan's wife] is the (provisional) name of the new list headed by MK Moshe Dayan. Former Finance Minister Yiga'el Hurvitz and MK Zalman Shoval yesterday held talks with Mr Dayan in the Knesset, and "came away encouraged," as they put it.

Even though MK Dayan has announced that he will not decide on his political future until April, it emerges that he has been holding talks with various figures in connection with the new list. In these talks he explains that he does not intend to form a party, with all the apparatus this entails, but a non-party emergency list which will function as long as it is able to contribute something.

RAFI will probably join this list as a faction. MK Shoval has been holding talks with various public figures who are social and economic experts, examining the possibility of their joining the new list headed by Dayan.

IDF DRAWS UP GUIDELINES FOR MANPOWER CUTS

TA040952 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 4 Feb 81 p 1

[Text] The IDF's general staff has recently concluded a series of basic guidelines and criteria whereby thousands of persons would be dismissed from the regular army in the wake of the substantial cut in the defense budget. The aim is to prevent, as far as possible, any adverse effect on the command structure of the combat and technical force, while continuing--parallel to the dismissals--to recruit talented young people for regular service.

The plan, which was recently prepared by the general staff's manpower branch, headed by Maj Gen Moshe Nativ, was approved following discussions by the general staff forum. The plan specifies which groups are the most likely candidates for dismissal from the IDF. Among other points, it asserts that officers and enlisted persons over 40 years of age will be candidates for dismissal, as well as officers who are not assigned according to their rank, or who have not been promoted for several years. Care will be taken so that the dismissals will be proportional and equal in all ranks. The directive states that consideration is to be given to personal problems, such as a wound or an illness sustained during service. It has also been decided to facilitate things as much as possible for those dismissed when they leave the IDF.

Along with these guidelines, various suggestions for economizing have been proposed, the idea being to have the money thus saved used to reduce the number of dismissals. These suggestions have not yet been approved.

BEDOUINS TO FORM INDEPENDENT KNESSET LIST

TA031505 Jerusalem POST in English 3 Feb 81 p 3

[By Yo'el Dar]

[Excerpt] Nazareth--Bedouin tribes will form an independent list to represent them in the tenth Knesset, Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Ghadir, the fifth candidate on the united Arab list, said yesterday.

Speaking at his home in Bi'r al (Maksour) the 53-year-old shaykh stressed that, since the murder of Shaykh Hamad Abu Rabi'a in Jerusalem last month, he and scores of Bedouin shaykhs and heads of tribes have conferred several times and decided to elect another shaykh to succeed the slain MK.

"We think the seat vacated in the Knesset as a result of the murder must stay in our hands--if not immediately, at least in the near future," Ghadir said.

The fourth on the list, Druze Shaykh Jabir Mu'addi, totally rejected formal and informal proposals to give up his seat in favour of Shaykh Ghadir.

The Bedouin representatives are to meet at the traditional memorial ceremony held on the 40th day after Abu Rabi'a's death and will then announce their new move publicly.

The shaykh stressed that there are no financial problems in forming the independent list, since "we are able to raise 10 million shekels for such a purpose."

SECURITY PERSONNEL RELEASE WEST BANK CLERICS

TA041424 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] The security personnel have released from jail two additional West Bank clerics: the person in charge of the Janin district preachers, Shaykh Abu Zayd, and the chief preacher in the Tubas Mosque. Our correspondent, Pinhas 'Inbari, notes that only three clerics are now under detention. All three are Nabulus residents and include Shaykh Sa'id Bilal, one of the leading Muslim Brotherhood activists in Samaria.

TRADE GROUP SETS DEMONSTRATIONS AT U.S. EMBASSIES

LD051456 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 5 Feb 81 CA

[Text] The Organization of African Unity must immediately set up a pan-African high command following the recent racist South African Military incursions into Mozambique and Angola, the Organization of African Trade Unity [OATU] said in a statement released in Lusaka yesterday.

The pan-African high command would help to strengthen the frontline states' defenses in the face of the current South African attack threats, the statement says. The OATU also appealed to the OAU to consider the proposal urgently as the racists are determined to cripple the frontline states. The OATU appeal has coincided with the TIMES OF ZAMBIA editorial opinion on Tuesday, which urged the frontline states to form a defense military so that they can cope with the South African attacks.

Meanwhile, the Organization of African Trade Union Unity will next month order workers throughout Africa to hold massive demonstrations of all American embassies in Africa, the OATU said in a statement released in Lusaka yesterday. The OATU has also asked all OAU member states to assist trade unions in their countries to ensure the demonstration is massive, the statement said. The demonstration, which will be held during the workers' week of solidarity, follows the American Government's promise to veto any United Nations sanctions against racist South Africa for the latter's refusal to abide by United Nations resolutions on Namibia. The statement added that the OATU has learned with shock of the United States' invitation of the Namibian puppets to visit Washington instead of inviting the South-West Africa People's Organization or Zambia's ambassador to the United Nations, Mr Paul Lusaka, who is chairman of the United Nations Council for Namibia.

MINERAL RESOURCES CONFERENCE HELD IN ARUSHA

LD022344 Dar es Salaam in English to Central and Southern Africa 1600 GMT 2 Feb 81 EA

[Excerpts] Arusha--African states have been urged to put their resources together and cooperate fully in order to realize maximum benefits from the continent's mineral potential. The prime minister, Ndugu Cleopa Msiya, has said while Africa was endowed with a rich mineral potential, it was the people outside the continent who benefited more from these resources.

The prime minister was opening a conference on the development and utilization of mineral resources in Africa at the Arusha International Conference Center. He said despite the fact that Africa had enormous mineral reserves, she was lagging behind in the utilization of these minerals which could bring about desired and much-needed social and economic transformation of her people. The conference, whose major theme is to determine means of utilizing African mineral resources and achieving economic self-reliance, is being attended by OAU member states, and representatives of the UN specialized agencies, inter-governmental bodies in Africa and observers' groups and governments.

Professor Adebayo Adedeji [Executive Secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Africa], stressed the promotion of inter-African investment of African financial resources and inter-African markets in minerals, energy and other industrial raw materials. In developing the mining sector, he also emphasized the need for sharing exploration and possessing experience and resources, besides seeking help from other Third World countries, developed socialist countries as well as developed market economy. [as heard]

ETHIOPIA

SWAPO LEADER ARRIVES, HOLDS TALKS WITH MENGISTU

Nujoma Arrival Statement

LD041158 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 4 Feb 81 EA

[Text] Comrade Sam Nujoma, the SWAPO leader, today declared that socialist Ethiopia's strong support for peoples struggling for freedom, justice and equality was highly esteemed by the international freedom movement. This is what he said in a statement this morning at Bole International Airport on arrival in Addis Ababa on a working visit, leading a high-powered, five-man SWAPO delegation.

In his statement, he noted that socialist Ethiopia's past and continuing support for the Namibian people's freedom struggle was admirable, adding that one of the purposes of his working visit was to thank Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia and commander-in-chief of the revolutionary army, the government and people of Ethiopia for their support for SWAPO. He said he would hold wide-ranging talks with Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam on SWAPO's armed struggle and the stage it had reached.

In the context of the armed struggle, Comrade Sam Nujoma referred to the antipeople acts perpetrated by the racist South African Government, adding that the freedom struggle being waged by his organization can resist any force and will continue fighting for independence until freedom is achieved.

He described the resolutions adopted and the call made by the OAU liberation committee's recent meeting in Arusha, Tanzania, as constituting important support for SWAPO's freedom struggle.

Comrade Nujoma and his delegation were met on arrival at Bole International Airport by Comrade Dr Feleke Gedle-Giorgis, foreign minister and COPWE Central Committee member.

Mengistu-Nujoma Meeting

LD041950 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 4 Feb 81 EA

[Excerpt] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia and commander-in-chief of the revolutionary army, today received and held talks with the Algerian ambassador to Ethiopia and with the president of SWAPO, Comrade Sam Nujoma. Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam discussed with Comrade Mohamed Lamine Allouane, the Algerian ambassador, issues concerning the friendship and relations between the two countries.

During his meeting with Comrade Chairman Mengistu, Comrade Sam Nujoma explained about the massacre being carried out by the South African ruling class, and added that this fascist action has led SWAPO to continue its intensified struggle. He also said that Ethiopian support for the Namibian independence struggle is highly appreciated.

For his part, our communist leader assured him that socialist Ethiopia will continue to stand alongside the struggle and contribute whatever assistance its resources permit. He added that SWAPO will emerge victorious.

SOMALIA

SIAD BARRE INTERVIEWED ON REFUGEE PROBLEM IMPACT

LD041731 Rome AVANTI in Italian 25-26 Jan 81 pp 1, 6

[Interview of Somali President Siad Barre by Paaolo Pillitteri in Mogadishu: "Do Not Abandon Somalia"--date of interview not specified]

[Text] [Question] The date of October 1969 marks a decisive historical event, a break with the models of the past and an attempt to surmount in an "African socialism the worst colonial legacies. On the basis of experience, is it now possible to take stock--if only briefly?

[Answer] Yes, certainly. I said a few years ago, when questioned by some journalists, that socialism cannot be African socialism, European socialism or socialism of other kinds. There is only one socialism, and so those who wish to implement it must do so through its substance and its truth. So there are not two, three or five kinds of socialism: There is only one socialism; it is universal socialism, whose greatest principles we are seeking to follow, implementing it, of course, on the basis of our situation--our country's situation and peculiarities in the various sectors--cultural, social, economic and so forth.

Of course, taking stock now, I say that we have done many things, but the needs were too many. The difficulties to be surmounted were too many, and there was no lack of calamities which stood in the way of achieving what we wished to achieve.

Taking stock from October 1969 to October 1980, this is undoubtedly quite positive. We who are in the thick of things frequently believe that we have done little, but friends and obsservers always tell us that we have taken gigantic strides forward.

[Question] There was the literacy campaign, and later also the one which was due to the great drought of the seventies to aid the nomads, with the campaign to settle the nomads beside the sea to fish, and also in agricultural centers. So has this been a successful experiment?

[Answer] Exactly. We conducted the literacy campaign, but it was not the only one. We have conducted a kind of census of what was important to include in our country's real statistics. We concluded that it was necessary to know the exact status of wells, agricultural watering places and many other essentials for human life. This has now been accompanied by the campaign to aid the nomad population, the health campaign, the zootechnical campaign and the campaign to settle the nomad population.

Not that alone but also to bring people together; to take the nomads and bring them close to the inhabitants of the cities, and thus to break down the barriers between these two ways of life, because each had its own way of thinking and living. And it was a really important victory, with considerable difficulties which we have surmounted.

As far as civilizing the nomads is concerned, I believe everybody can see how very well civilizing and settling them in agriculture and fisheries has succeeded. This has been most successful in fisheries, and we did not believe that the nomads could become fishermen. And the reason why they have fared better than those in agriculture is so far unknown to me. But even those in agriculture have settled down quite well. It was an experiment, and now we know that if we continue this process, civilizing the nomads can succeed extremely easily.

[Question] And now at what priority sectors are the activity and work of the "new" Somalia, its ruling class and the party aimed?

[Answer] In fact, if I were to say what the priority aim is, it would be quite a lengthy speech. As a whole, it is that of surmounting poverty and ignorance. Today, every Somali can read and write, and as far as diseases are concerned, we have conducted many campaigns through which we are succeeding in identifying the various kinds, their nature and how to combat them. Our priority is for economic development. But before saying where we will set these priorities, we must talk about what we possess; this is important.

We have over 3,200 km of coastline, but we know the Somali population does not derive many benefits from it, even though we have created a fishing fleet, which, however, is not highly developed; therefore fisheries is a sector which can and should develop.

We have over 8-9 million hectares in which agriculture can develop and where we are now working in a rather empirical and outmoded manner, because of the lack of many things, as you can imagine. Considerable investments, resources, fertilizers and so forth are needed to develop agriculture.

In the zootechnical field, we have no less than 45-50 million animals, in addition to the nondomesticated animals in which Somalia abounds. We also have a host of minerals--we have exact information--such as oil, uranium, iron and other, nonferrous, ores.

So, speaking of the economic sector, there is much to be done. In Somalia, there are no Sahara-type deserts; whatever you like can grow wherever you bring water. In certain areas there are rivers which can be used for irrigation, not to mention rainwater and also underground water which can be extracted to develop certain areas. But the real priority is that of feeding people and feeding them forever and not just temporarily. These areas or sectors are interlinked and must become more so if we wish to have the prospect of developing them.

Of course the development of these sectors precedes possible industrialization. For instance, agricultural byproducts cannot be produced if agriculture is not developed, and fishing vessels cannot be constructed if fisheries do not develop.

And the same applies to zootechnics and the minerals; if the latter are not extracted, history cannot be created. This is why we set these priorities. As far as I am concerned, I have never had in mind heavy industries. Instead I have always had in mind small industries which meet domestic needs. We can contemplate heavy industries--such as uranium--later.

[Question] Somalia is located in a strategically important geographical position, both with respect to the situation in the Horn of Africa and because of the more general aspects of the current crisis: the war between Iran and Iraq and the dramatic issue of Afghanistan. What could Somalia's role in this difficult situation be?

[Answer] Somalia hopes that the people heading other countries have sufficient wisdom to find suitable formulas for ending these wars and all the disorders existing today in the world. Somalia's role is that of hoping for all this, and thus of contributing to it. But we undoubtedly have our difficulties, and there are too many attempts at interference by foreign forces, particularly those of a big power, even to the extent of constant bombings and invasions, as you know. We have the refugees, driven out of their country by a method which we may term crazy. In fact the Ethiopian leaders and their friends are talking about eradicating Somalia, exactly like Hitler and the Jews. This is exactly what they assert, and it is very dangerous. They wish not only to colonize Somalia but also to hit the Somali population. This is why we constantly have endless bombings and invasions, and it is the Soviet Union which is behind this, acting as military cover, on behalf of Ethiopia (and in practice acting as leader). This is what is happening here.

[Question] Over the last few years Somali policy toward the outside world has become more dynamic, with various options and attentions, not least the most recent one marked by the visit by Kissinger, who is well known to be close to, if not an inspirer, of President Reagan's foreign policy. Is this impression of ours correct? And what developments might there be?

[Answer] As you know, our relations with the Soviet Union have not been good for some time, while those with the West are going well, although we find that they are too slow in helping us with respect to this aggression. I can say of the foreign forces which are looking to their strategic interests that this is not right--both in the interest of world peace and in the interest of cooperation among the various nations. However, what we know and hear from the United States through various sources we view favorably and hope that there will be more dynamic, more active and mutually beneficial cooperation with ourselves, with other countries in the area and with the West.

[Question] Somalia is, therefore, a country which is growing and which wants to be constantly developed. However, in addition to the traditional difficulties common to many African nations, your country has the obvious tragedy of the Western Somalia refugees who, it is said, number more than 1 million, posing enormous problems and calling for great sacrifices from your entire community, and also slowing down development. What can Europe, and especially Italy, do to tackle this tragic situation?

[Answer] As you said, it certainly is a tragedy for us and for these refugees in Somalia. As you know, if you look back into Ethiopia's history, that country was born from the colonialist subdivision of Africa into various parts. Unfortunately when the European whites freed the rest of Africa, Ethiopia remained impervious to the reality of decolonization, partly because it received support from foreign countries and partly because Europe thought that there was no such thing as black colonization. That is ridiculous. For instance, the small Republic of Djibouti was decolonized by the French Government after a long occupation and I do not see why Europe should not be aware of the Western Somalia (Ogaden) population's legitimate right.

Therefore the refugees are victims of this black colonization supported, strengthened, armed and financed by one of the great powers and its allies, or rather its dependents who have implemented extremely brutal plans, as bad as those implemented by fascism or Hitler against the Jews with the gas chambers. Mengistu recklessly told other heads of state that the Somalis should be uprooted. What does uprooted mean? Where do they want to drive them? To the sea? Of course they have uprooted not all but a good part of the population in the territory colonized by Ethiopia. That is why we have 2 million refugees, 1 million in the camps and others scattered throughout Somalia. It is a tragedy for these people who are suffering; furthermore Somalia does not have the means to meet their human needs, and international aid has so far failed to do so. To say the least they are in a dreadful situation. They have caused Somalia just as much tragedy because Somalia cannot turn its back on these poor people and it has to give them what it can; hence all the government's programs have been upset--programs relating to education and health, economic programs and our own security. We had an education program, but how can we continue it? All the teachers are working in the refugee camps and are no longer working to meet national requirements.

What about health? All our doctors are in the camps too. The state administrative services have to go to the camps and work. Therefore, as you can see, our own financial resources have to be channeled into this sector. All this is having a disastrous effect on the Somali Democratic Republic's very existence. We are appealing to our friend, Italy, to our friends the Italians and to Europe to help these people who have been outrageously hounded out of their country. We are asking them to help us defend them and save their lives, to prevent them dying of hunger, disease or some other cuase, because Somalia alone cannot do it.

So far international aid has not been adequate to surmount the disastrous situation, and also the situation facing these people from Ethiopian colonialism, inhumane oppression and the destructions and killings going on there. It is important to look back into the Ethiopian empire's history. It is now called socialist Ethiopia or communist Ethiopia, I do not know which; they change their colors from time to time. Europe can do a great deal for the sake of humanity, justice and respect for human dignity: not just tackling all this but also ending this continual war, the bloodshed and pointless killing. Some countries are probably happy to have a perpetual war in Somalia or in the Horn of Africa. However, in a war the poor people, Ethiopian and Somali, die. Of course, I do not expect the Ethiopian Government to understand this, as I understand it, because it is backed by a great power and thinks it can do anything it wishes, but that is a mistake. When the Somali, Eritreans and Abos die, the Ethiopians die too because they are fighting. What point is there in dying and killing people in this way? In view of the country now backing Ethiopia, I believe that this is the strategic design of a great power (the USSR), and Europe should not ignore it because these struggles, these killings, this desperate situation and this tragedy are not an end in itself but a result of the great power's desire to use Ethiopia and occupy Somalia in order to reach the Indian Ocean, the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden, gain control of this zone, which is strategic, and control any point along the coast and hence strangle Europe's oil and trade routes from the rear. The real aim is to try, by influence and interference, to replace friendly relations with Europe. Unfortunately, meanwhile, in the course of this "operation" not only any rights but also existence itself is denied with the continued use of napalm and chemical warfare; these are terrible and unjust actions which mankind is passively watching. Remember that the aim is to gain control by force and guns. This is the real situation and I am calling on Europe and Italy, our friend, to heed this situation.

TANZANIA

FRG TO FINANCE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CENTERS

LD042318 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 0700 GMT 4 Feb 81 EA

[Text] The FRG has agreed to finance the project for the installation of telecommunication centers throughout the country, the Tanzania news agency.[sentence as heard] The centers are expected to be installed this July. A statement signed after negotiations between the FRG news agency and political officials said both sides agreed that the project would be implemented in phases.

It is estimated that the first phase of the project, which will be for the financial year 1981-82, will cost 13 million shillings and will include the installation of centers for receiving and transmitting news to various areas in the country, and to the Tanzania news agency offices in Kampala and Maputo.

The report added that in view of the existing system of news in the world, Tanzania sees the new project as an important and indispensable step for development which the government is committed to support fully.

GUINEA

GOVERNMENT TO CREATE THREE NEW MINISTRIES

AB041408 Paris AFP in English 1406 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] Dakar, Senegal 4 Feb (AFP)--Guinea's rulers have decided to create three new ministries for farms and cooperatives, small and medium businesses and vocational education, Radio Conakry said today in a broadcast monitored here. The decision was taken by the Political Bureau of the Guinea Democratic Party, the country's only legal political grouping.

The ministers who will hold the three new portfolios have not been named, the radio said.

In the present government, Alafe Kourouma is minister for farms, agriculture, water and forests. It was not clear how the formation of the new Farms and Cooperatives Ministry would affect his portfolio.

GHANA

LAWMAKER CHARGES GOODS DISTRIBUTION FAVORS PNP

AB041915 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Excerpt] Parliament was today the scene of hot exchanges and near confusion when statements on the distribution of goods and import licences and the reregistration of voters were made. There were accusations and counteraccusations from all sides of the house. The interruptions were such that the speaker, Mr Justice Griffiths-Randolph, had to warn that any member who would not keep the order would be walked out.

In the statement on the distribution of goods and import licences, the member for Afram, Mr D.D. Ofori, spoke against discrimination in the distribution of essential items. He said traders who are not members of the People's National Party [PNP] did not get an allocation of goods while PNP members and supporters do have regular supply. This, Mr Ofori pointed out, gives the impression that only PNP members should enjoy the fruit of the whole nation's labor. This also means that Ghanaians are being forced to join only one party, an act which will lead to a one-party state in contravention of the constitution. Mr Ofori condemned the practice of using the distribution of essential items and import licences for political purposes while the population, especially those in the rural areas, suffer. All the allegations were, however, denied by the PNP members.

LIBERIA

DOE ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF NEW SECRETARY GENERAL

AB040844 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0625 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] The former deputy speaker of the PRC, Capt Abraham D. Kollie has been named the new secretary general of the PRC to replace the late Lt Col Fallah Varney. Head of state Master Sergeant Doe announced the appointment of Captain Kollie in Monrovia yesterday to fill the vacancy in the council created by the death of former Secretary General Fallah Varney in Monrovia just over a week ago. Lt Col Fallah Varney was also chairman of the PRC Committee on Commerce, Industry and Transportation of which his successor, Abraham D. Kollie is a senior member.

Meanwhile in a commentary on the appointment of the new PRC secretary general the Liberian News Agency endorsed and held the selection of Abraham D. Kollie as a significant development in revolutionary Liberia. The agency said that the new secretary general won his position solely on merit. It also described Captain Kollie's performance in the various PRC committees since April 12 last year as unique. Captain Kollie hails from Lofa County, the same home county of the late Secretary General Lt Col Fallah Varney.

DOE URGES EXILED COUNTRYMEN TO RETURN HOME

AB050858 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0625 GMT 5 Feb 81

[Text] The chairman of the PRC [Peoples Redemption Council] and head of state Master Sergeant Doe has invited Liberians in self-imposed exile to return home and contribute to the development of the country. He said it is necessary for Liberians who left the country after the coup to return home and work for the betterment of the Liberian people. Master Sergeant Doe told the Liberian news agency in the executive mansion in Monrovia yesterday that government has no malice against what he called the so-called Americo-Liberians and his administration would continue to encourage individuals from all strata of Liberian life to work hard to develop and defend the state. The head of state noted that those in self-imposed exile should not feel apprehensive about the military government adding, the military takeover has created a new society directly uniting the masses and ensuring justice for all.

NIGERIA

DAILY STAR WORRIED BY 'TOUGH' REAGAN STAND

AB040958 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Press review]

[Excerpt] THE DAILY STAR writes about the first press conference of the new President of the United States of America, Mr Ronald Reagan. It says that the president's tough stand on certain issues is not surprising, particularly to the United States. But to the non-aligned nations, the paper states that Mr Reagan's speech smacks of tensions and confrontations which do not augur well for world peace.

COMMENTARY CRITICIZES INCREASING STUDENT UNREST

AB051007 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 5 Feb 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The country is once again witnessing a spate of student unrest. Already Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Bayero University, Kano, and the School of Basic Studies, Ogaja, have been closed down. Two persons were reported to have lost their lives in the violent demonstrations at Ahmadu Bello University.

Students' disturbances in Nigeria have become a special source of concern because they occur rather too often and have, since the 70's, assumed a violent dimension. In addition, most of the protests by the students result from relatively insignificant issues. Take for instance the reasons given by the students of Ahmadu Bello University for their latest militancy. One of their demands is the inclusion of rice in their menu and the other is the reduction of the fees being paid by boarding students. Despite the short notice of only 7 days which they gave the university authorities, the students went on a rampage damaging the institution's senate buildings and burning the central food store. The issues at stake here are those that should not have precipitated rioting especially as the authorities of the institution were already taking action on the students' demands. If the action of the students of Ahmadu Bello University was uncalled for, that of their counterparts at Bayero University, Kano, was absurd.

According to reports, the students of Bayero University are challenging the decision of the authorities to restrict the movement of male students in female hostels. It would appear that some of our students derive some joy in creating anarchic situations in their campuses and it is particularly noticeable at the beginning of every academic year when they erroneously believe that because there is generally no serious examination they have nothing important at stake. This group of undisciplined and idle students therefore resorts to organizing violent demonstrations which often lead to destruction of lives and property, looting and arson.

The worst of such lawless behavior occurred in April 1978 when the nation suffered untold loss of lives and property. There is however one basic truth which students, and indeed other citizens who adopt violence in seeking remedies for their grievances should bear in mind always, and that is that violence is an ill wind which blows nobody any good. As a matter of fact, when law and order break down in institutions of learning, it is the students who suffer most. The closure of educational institutions and suspension of classes means that the students have a shorter time to cover their syllabuses and where school property is destroyed both the students and their wards are affected. If, for example, an institution's library is damaged in the course of a protest, the students will be more hurt by the action than anyone else while their parents or guardians bear the burden of contributing toward repairs or even building a new one altogether.

Student unrest in this country can be curtailed considerably through the help of parents in instilling discipline in their children. They should impress on their children the need to respect constituted authority and to resist every attempt to get them involved in unnecessary protest demonstrations by the few of very vocal radical students. And in electing their leaders, the students must conduct thorough screening of all those contesting union office. Nigeria expects her educational institutions to operate under a peaceful atmosphere in the interest of national stability and educational progress as well as the success of the students. The federal government has made quite clear its commitment to improving the welfare of students in higher institutions of learning through the provision of adequate resources for their academic and social pursuits. It has also expressed its belief in a virile dynamic and mature student unionism. This is in recognition of the important role which the student body can play in the economic, social and political development of the nation. Our students have yet to demonstrate that they deserve the trust and hope which the nation has placed in them. For our students to continue to be regarded as leaders of tomorrow, they must learn to cherish peace.

NEWSPAPERS CITE 'DETERIORATING POLITICAL SITUATION'

AB051021 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 5 Feb 81

[Press review]

[Excerpt] Two papers, the NATIONAL CONCORD and the NEW NIGERIAN, draw attention to the deteriorating political situation in the country. Both papers enumerate a catalog of clashes between supporters of different political parties in various part of the nation. They focus particularly on the reported clash in Kaduna state between supporters of the two factions of the People's Redemption Party, PRP.

The NEW NIGERIAN also (?frowns) at the alleged attack on the plateau state governor by agitators for the creation of a middle belt state. The paper wants the organizers and executors of the attack to be identified and dealt with in accordance with the law.

The CONCORD suggests ways of curbing the frequent political clashes. Among others, the paper says the naming of political party leaders should be revised. It also calls on the Senate fact-finding committee to publicly investigate allegations of victimization and persecution with a view to finding solutions to them.

956 PERSONS ARRESTED IN CONNECTION WITH KANO RIOTS

AB040941 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] The acting commissioner of police in Kano state, Mr J.O. (Focson), has disclosed that 956 persons have so far been arrested in connection with the religious uprising in the area. Those arrested, he explained, are suspected to be followers of late Muhamadu Marwa Maitatsine, leader of the religious sect which threatened peace in the area.

Mr (Focson) was giving evidence yesterday before the commission of inquiry into the disturbances. Out of this number, he explained that 732 were Nigerians while the remaining 224 were aliens from the Republic of Niger, Chad, Cameroon, Mali and Upper Volta. The police commissioner further told the commission that 14 policemen were killed while 27 others were seriously injured during the encounter with the fanatics. Mr (Focson) added that about 18 different types of dangerous weaons were recovered from the fanatics.

The commission is headed by Mr Justice Anthony Aniagolu.

SHAGARI SIGNS REVENUE ALLOCATION BILL INTO LAW

AB040812 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] Presidnet Shehu Shagari has signed the revenue allocation bill into law. Under the revenue allocation law the federal government has 58.5 percent, state governments 31.5 percent, and local governments 10 percent. Out of the federal government's allocation 2.5 percent will go to initial development of the new federal capital, Abuja, and 1 percent to ecological problems, leaving 55 percent for minimum responsibility of the government.

Speaking at the ceremony President Shehu Shagari remarked that the allocation given to the federal government had demonstrated in no uncertain terms the strong belief in the unity and stability of the country. The president noted that no revenue allocation formula could fully satisfy all people, adding that the present formula provided a more reasonable base from which future amendments might be made.

President Shehu Shagari stated that it was the hope of his administration that the new revenue allocation exercise would be the last for a long time. This is because such exercises tend to attract much sentiment which would not help the cause of national unity. He said that with the conclusion of the revenue allocation exercise Nigerians had demonstrated their capacity and determination to stand on their feet and solve their problems themselves. President Shehu Shagari expressed the nation's gratitude to the Okigbo panel and commended members of the National Assembly.

The bill was presented for the president's signature by the presidential adviser on National Assembly matters, Dr K.O. Mbadwe.

ANGOLA

RACISM, APARTHEID INQUIRY SESSION HELD IN LUANDA

Santos, McBride Comments

AB031610 Luanda Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 3 Feb 81

[Text] The Angolan head of state, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, yesterday received in audience at his home in Luanda a delegation of the International Commission of Inquiry Into Problems of Racism and Apartheid in Southern Africa led by its chairman, Mr Sean McBride.

Speaking on the occasion the comrade president expressed gratitude at the world body's visit to Angola at a time when southern Africa is going through serious social, political, security and stability problems. We are optimistic that the outcome of this work, which has been in progress since January 30, will be positive and it will have a big influence on the international public opinion, Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos pointed out. He added: Our desire is to see the international community stand against [words indistinct] to which the racist South Africa regime is subjecting the peoples of Africa. We wish the international public opinion to stand opposed to racist South Africa's acts of aggression against the southern African states and for peace, justice, stability and good understanding among peoples, Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos explained.

In his response to the speech, Mr McBride commended the Angolan leadership for its efforts in the struggle against colonialism. He also expressed satisfaction with Angola's support to southern African liberation movements which are (?working) to liquidate racist South Africa's domination and colonization. In his speech, he pointed out that much was spoken by the Western press and Western governments about the captivity of the American hostages in Iran but practically nothing is being done in connection with South Africa's barbarous atrocities against the heroic people of Angola. Here are some extracts from his declaration:

[Begin recording] Mr President, may I first of all say how grateful we are to you and to your colleagues in the Government of Angola for all the assistance and help which your colleagues have so willingly given to us in the course of our work here. We have received all the assistance we could possibly desire and we are very grateful for it.

I think there are probably two main considerations that made us so enthusiastic about undertaking the work we have undertaken here. Firstly, our admiration for the leadership and courage of the people of Angola in their struggle against colonialism. You have won the struggle against considerable odds but there are still many efforts being made from outside the borders of this country to destabilize it. Sincerely, we admire you and your country for the assistance it has given to the other peoples of Africa who are deprived of their national rights. These are probably the two main considerations that make us enthusiastic about the work we are doing here.

But there are other considerations of a wider nature which, I think, are also relevant to our work. We are living in a world which is torn asunder by [word indistinct] ideological divisions and [word indistinct] of different powers. In that situation, we may be sure that efforts will be made to destabilize the situation in this part of Africa in such a way as to render a world conflict more possible. The attempts that are being made to defeat the decisions of the United Nations in regard to the liberation of Namibia form part of a campaign to try and dominate Africa. [Words indistinct] to assert the authority of the United Nations in regard to the liberation of Namibia and also to the protection of the peoples of Africa we are glad to do.

As Your Excellency knows only too well, we are living in a period of escalating violence and brutality and here in southern Africa, in Angola, we are witnessing the aggressive actions of a state that does not represent its people. It is a case of international terrorism being carried out by a state which is a member of the United Nations but which has been allowed to act with complete impunity so far.

We have just lived through a period in which there was commotion in world concerning some 52 hostages who were taken in Iran and undoubtedly we could not seek to justify the taking of hostages by anybody. But for 444 days, the press of the world and the governments of the world were making this a major issue. Meanwhile during the same period of time, several hundreds of your people and African people--men women and children--were massacred by South African forces. But there has been virtual silence by the world press about the [words indistinct] that sanctions should be applied to the country which is carrying out terrorist activities on your territory.

Part of our task here, sir, is to try and expose the international terrorism which has been vented on the people from Africa--Angolans, Mozambicans, Namibians, Zambians. So apart from any personal admiration we have for you, your government and your country, we also feel we are discharging a public duty in exposing these acts of international terrorism. We brought to the attention of the secretary general of the United Nations yesterday in connection with the raids carried out on Maputo and also that the United Nations should now take immediate action to stamp out acts of terrorism against the people of Angola, of Namibia, of Mozambique and Zambia. We have also communicated with the OAU, the Crganization of African Unity, and asked them to take initiatives at the United Nations in the same sense and I have also addressed a message to President Fidel Castro of Cuba as the president of the meeting of the conference of nonaligned states which is opening in Delhi this week, to the Arab League and to the European Parliament in the same sense. We feel the time has come when there must be decisive action taken by the United Nations to put an end to this international terrorism carried out by South Africa. We thank you for the courage of your people for standing up against this war of aggression which is being carried out and also for standing up not only for your own country but all the peoples of Africa. [end recording]

Commission's Conclusions

LD041530 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 4 Feb 81 EA

[Text] Luanda--The second session of the international inquiry commission on the crimes of the South African racists against the southern African population described the aggression committed by South Africa against Angola as systematic and said that it was directed at economic targets. The commission which ended its work in Luanda yesterday accused Pretoria of bombing indiscriminately and of killing and torturing Angolan civilians.

The second session of the international inquiry ended its meeting by reaffirming the rights of the Namibian people to independence under the guidance of its vanguard, SWAPO.

The commission referred to the barbarities committed by Pretoria against detained South African nationalists. It said that members of the African National Congress of South Africa are treated like prisoners of war captured in combat. Afonso van Dunen, MPLA-Labor Party secretary for foreign affairs, described the situation in southern Africa, particularly in Namibia, as dangerous for world peace and said that it only benefits the imperialist countries.

Sean McBride, president of the inquiry commission, denounced the crimes committed by Pretoria and compared them to those committed by Nazi Germany under Hitler during World War II. Sean McBride said that the need to put an end to the crimes committed by apartheid will be the task of the next phase of the international inquiry commission on the crimes committed by the Pretoria regime.

MADAGASCAR

'PRECARIOUS CALM' PREVAILS IN ANTANANARIVO

AB041740 Paris AFP in French 1426 GMT 4 Feb 81

[Text] Antananarivo, 4 Feb (AFP)--A precarious calm prevailed in Antananarivo on Wednesday and the situation is still tense after the clashes on Tuesday between demonstrators and policemen. The night was calm in the Malagasy capital and in general, the population respected the curfew. Independence Avenue, the main thoroughfare and the location of the clashes, is closed to traffic and it is being patrolled by members of the invervention joint forces--charged with maintaining order--who have blocked every access to the thoroughfare.

Even though gatherings are forbidden, many groups can be seen in the adjoining streets. At present, they are made up of onlookers and employed young people. Students from secondary schools and the university are rarely seen. A few clashes were reported in the morning, but a violent and brutal storm miraculously broke out and calmed down the protagonists.

The exact number of the victims of Tuesday's clashes cannot be established. Officially the national radio has maintained since Tuesday evening that one soldier was dead and another seriously injured but did not mention civilian casualities.

Reportedly, 6 civilians are dead, 4 missing and 46 injured, some by bullets, at the University of Madagascar, where a strike committee made up of lecturers and students is held responsible for Tuesday's demonstrations. As a matter of fact, attention is now focused on the Antananarivo campus, the stronghold of the opposition to President Ratsiraka's regime, where there has been unrest for several months.

A communique broadcast in Malagasy announced the arrest of a few lecturers and students--reactionaries and enemies of the revolution--while other strike leaders on the run are being sought. In this regard, a new committee for the struggle, which held a limited session in the morning at the university, has confirmed the arrest of most university leaders of the strike committee. Among them is Professor Randriamampandry, who is also the chairman of the Malagasy committee for human rights.

The government, which has so far limited its reaction to three communiques reporting the number of casualties, the establishment of a curfew and the closing of educational institutions in Antananarivo on Wednesday, seems determined to consider the events as actions limited to Antananarivo.

In general, the situation all over the country now seems to confirm this view. No incidents have been reported in the main towns of the five provinces. On the other hand, the national radio reported last night demonstrations in support of President Didier Ratsiraka and the Malagasy Socialist Revolution in Toamasina (formerly Tamatave) on the eastern coast and in Antsiranana (formerly Diego Suarez) in the north.

SOUTH AFRICA

OFFICIALS BEGIN TALKS WITH SOUTH-WEST AFRICANS

LD051126 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 5 Feb 81

[Excerpt] Political leaders in South-West Africa have begun talks in Cape Town with the South African prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, and the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Roelof Botha. The first delegation to meet the South African Government party, which included the minister of defense, Gen Magnus Malan, was that of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance [DTA].

This meeting was followed by talks between South Africa and a delegation from the Action Front for the Retention of the Turnhalle Principles, AKTUR. The consultations end tomorrow, but no time limit has been set on discussions with the individual parties, which include the national party of South-West Africa.

The chairman of the DTA, Mr Dirk Mudge, said he would wait until tomorrow before commenting on the talks, which include deliberations on the recent Geneva conference.

GOVERNMENT POWERS TO MONITOR SHIPPING EXPANDED

LD022146 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 2 Feb 81

[Text] The South African Parliament has approved legislation empowering the authorities to regulate, to monitor and, where necessary, to take action against marine traffic passing through the country's territorial waters. The law empowers the minister of transport affairs to act against vessels suspected of carrying terrorists, arms or narcotics or of being a threat to the state. The House of Assembly was told that under the existing legislation the authorities were virtually powerless to act against ships equipped with electronic surveillance apparatus spying against South Africa. The law will enable action to be taken against ships carrying arms destined for the country's enemies. The opposition parties supported the measure.

ZIMBABWE

MUGABE COMMENTS ON ARMY ACCOUNTING SCANDAL

LD041328 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 0410 GMT 4 Feb 81 CA

[Excerpt] When Parliament resumed yesterday the prime minister Comrade Mugabe demanded that the government must take immediate action to recover excess profits made by a Salisbury firm, JJM Holdings, which made a $7 million profit in a 4 months supply of food to guerrillas in assembly points. Comrade Mugabe said the firm was entitled to make some profit, but reasonable profit. He added that they were not entitled to profiteer and take advantage of the ignorance of our men in the pay corps or the tender points.

The prime minister was speaking during the resumed debate on the first report of the Committee of Public Accounts. JJM Holdings were originally contracted to supply rations to more than 10,000 guerrillas at assembly points at a rate of $3 per head daily. The contract has since been transferred to another local company, Brebond, at $1.83 per head daily. Commenting on the contract change, Comrade Mugabe said it appears that we have jumped from the frying pan into the fire and that both firms are not of very high standing in terms of the principles to which we are committed. He also added that Brebond is reportedly guilty of some corruption. He said that he hopes that this evidence, that the corruption, which it has been alleged indeed took place, will come to light.

Comrade Mugabe said he does not know whether to blame the army pay corps or the former revenue fund review [as heard] for the irregularities which have allowed such a situation to arise. The prime minister said Zimbabwe inherited a system that was already inadequate and also a system which apparently had acquired certain irregular methods of operation which had gone unchecked. He added that whoever is at fault, the fact remains that the system has permitted inconsistencies which have led to cases of dishonesty such as has been expunged. Comrade Mugabe also agreed that action to recover the grossly excessive $7 million profit JJM Holdings made in supplying rations to assembly points should be done openly.

On the army, Comrade Mugabe assured top-ranking officers that there would be no attempt to find scapegoats for the present army accounting scandal involving tens of millions of dollars. Comrade Mugabe said the government wished to ensure that the army is a non-racial one and that its command is non radical, but he added, agreed with that [as heard]. We must also ensure that the quality of our army continues to improve. He defended the army against accusations of massive maladministration and accounting bungles. He pointed out that the army pay office was grossly understaffed with only 164 people doing the work of 648 and that with the number of resignations [words indistinct] which have occurred over the last year the army's administrative and accounting services have been strained to the utmost.

Comrade Mugabe said the army is suffering a very real manpower shortage in the service unit [as heard] and that the minister of defense is considering recruiting that manpower, possibly from overseas, while it develops its training program.